



State of Wisconsin  
Department of Workforce Development  
Office of Economic Advisors

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# WORKFORCE OBSERVATIONS FOR SOUTHEAST WISCONSIN COUNTIES KENOSHA, RACINE AND WALWORTH COUNTIES

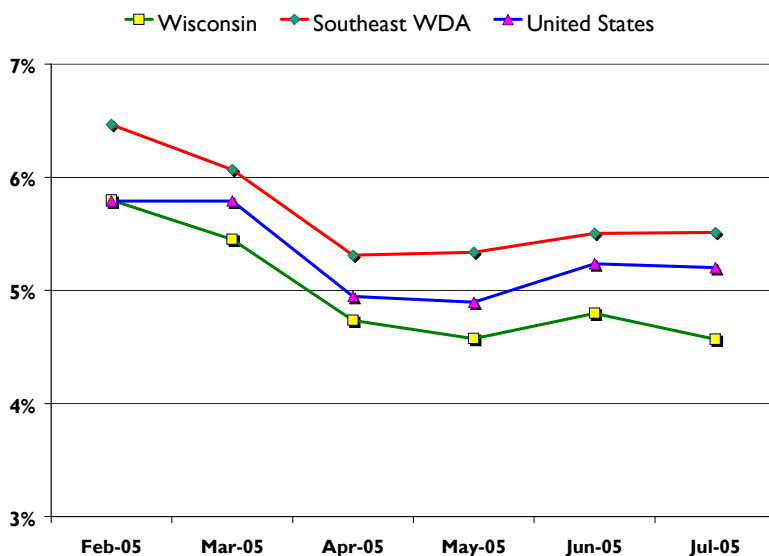
Starting in October 2005, there will only be a quarterly edition of the Workforce Observation. It will review the region's labor market over the previous quarter as well as feature contemporary economic and demographic topics. Monthly workforce data for metropolitan areas is available from the Office of Economic Advisors homepage at [http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/oea/xls/wi\\_msa\\_quick\\_table.xls](http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/oea/xls/wi_msa_quick_table.xls) and for non-metropolitan counties at [http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/oea/xls/county\\_quick\\_table.xls](http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/oea/xls/county_quick_table.xls). E-mail alerts will continue for the quarterly publications. Please contact the author if you have questions.

The **Racine MSA** unemployment rate in July was 5.9 percent, which was an improvement from June's final rate of 6.2 percent. The county shows 300 more employed

and 300 fewer unemployed residents over the month. From an annual scenario, the county's rate is lower than last July's by four-tenths of a percentage point, though the

county's detailed labor force figures show over 500 fewer unemployed coupled with almost 1,300 fewer employed residents.

## Six-Month Unemployment Rate Watch



Racine County's total nonfarm employment tally was 80,200 jobs in July. This total is 200 jobs fewer than June's final total. This is a net loss saddled in a 400-job decrease in schools' employment (government). Small gains of 100 jobs each were measured in manufacturing, retail trade, and construction. The remaining industry sectors employment were basically unchanged over the month.

Racine's annual change in its number of jobs measured a net decrease of 300 jobs. This net measurement was the final result of employment gains (manufacturing; wholesale trade; education and health services; leisure and hospitality; and professional and business services) being offset by job de-

## Civilian Labor Force Estimates for Southeast Wisconsin Counties: July 2005

	Wisconsin			Kenosha County			Racine County		
	Jul-05	Jun-05	Jul-04	Jul-05	Jun-05	Jul-04	Jul-05	Jun-05	Jul-04
Labor force	3,081,722	3,092,969	3,115,633	85,261	84,143	85,722	100,801	100,785	102,584
Employed	2,940,972	2,944,691	2,965,065	79,982	79,419	79,993	94,897	94,576	96,159
Unemployed	140,750	148,278	150,568	5,279	4,724	5,729	5,904	6,209	6,425
% Unemployed	4.6%	4.8%	4.8%	6.2%	5.6%	6.7%	5.9%	6.2%	6.3%
	Walworth County			Southeast WDA			United States		
	Jul-05	Jun-05	Jul-04	Jul-05	Jun-05	Jul-04	Jul-05	Jun-05	Jul-04
Labor force	56,957	57,339	58,187	243,019	242,267	246,493	151,122,000	150,327,000	149,217,000
Employed	54,746	54,969	55,796	229,625	228,964	231,948	143,283,000	142,456,000	140,700,000
Unemployed	2,211	2,370	2,391	13,394	13,303	14,545	7,839,000	7,870,000	8,518,000
% Unemployed	3.9%	4.1%	4.1%	5.5%	5.5%	5.9%	5.2%	5.2%	5.7%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and DWD, Local Area Unemployment Statistics. Figures are not seasonally adjusted and current month's data are preliminary

## Industry Employment Estimates for Southeast Wisconsin - July 2005

	Wisconsin			Kenosha County			Racine County			Walworth County			Southeast WDA		
Employment in 1,000's	Change since July 2005	Change since June 2005	Change since July 2004	Change since July 2005	Change since June 2005	Change since July 2004	Change since July 2005	Change since June 2005	Change since July 2004	Change since July 2005	Change since June 2005	Change since July 2004	Change since July 2005	Change since June 2005	Change since July 2004
	July 2005	June 2005	July 2004	July 2005	June 2005	July 2004	July 2005	June 2005	July 2004	July 2005	June 2005	July 2004	July 2005	June 2005	July 2004
All Industries	2,844.1	-25.2	19.9	55.7	-1.2	0.0	80.2	-0.2	-0.3	43.4	-0.7	-0.4	179.3	-2.2	-0.7
Construction/Natural Resources	149.7	2.3	6.6	2.5	0.1	0.0	4.2	0.1	-0.2	2.3	0.0	-0.1	9.0	0.1	-0.3
Manufacturing	511.9	4.0	3.2	8.6	-1.0	-0.7	19.1	0.1	0.1	9.4	0.2	0.1	37.1	-0.7	-0.5
Total Trade	435.4	1.2	1.4	8.9	-0.1	0.2	13.0	0.1	-0.2	5.7	-0.1	0.1	27.6	0.0	0.1
Retail Trade	316.2	1.3	-1.6	xx	xx	xx	9.4	0.1	-0.3	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx
Wholesale Trade	119.2	-0.1	3.0	xx	xx	xx	3.6	0.0	0.1	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx
Transport/Warehouse/Utilities	106.5	-2.3	0.6	1.7	-0.1	0.0	2.0	-0.1	0.0	1.1	-0.1	0.0	4.8	-0.2	0.0
Financial Activities	159.7	0.2	1.0	1.8	0.0	0.1	2.6	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.0	0.0	5.5	0.0	0.1
Education and Health Services	376.4	-3.2	2.7	8.7	0.0	0.2	10.4	0.0	0.1	4.6	0.0	0.2	23.6	0.0	0.5
Leisure and Hospitality	274.4	2.7	1.9	7.3	0.2	0.0	7.0	0.0	0.1	8.3	0.4	-0.1	22.6	0.7	0.0
Info./Prof./Bus. and Other Services	446.4	0.2	3.2	7.2	-0.1	0.3	11.9	0.0	0.0	5.4	0.0	0.1	24.4	-0.1	0.4
Information	50.1	-0.8	0.4	xx	xx	xx	0.6	0.0	0.0	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx
Professional and Business Services	259.4	1.2	3.2	xx	xx	xx	6.6	0.0	0.1	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx
Other Services	136.9	-0.2	-0.4	xx	xx	xx	4.7	0.0	-0.1	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx
Fed/State/Local Government	383.7	-30.3	-0.7	9.1	-0.4	0.0	10.0	-0.4	-0.2	5.6	-1.1	-0.6	24.6	-1.9	-0.8

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and DWD, Current Employment Statistics. Figures are rounded and may not sum to total. Current month's figures are preliminary

creases in other industry sectors (construction, retail trade, other services and government).

**Kenosha County's** unemployment rate was 6.2 percent in July, which is six-tenths of a percentage point higher over the month. It was the only county in the southeast WDA to have a higher rate in July compared to June. There were fairly equivalent numeric increases in the county's employed and unemployed over the month, but in percentage terms the unemployed grew faster, hence the rate increase. Annually, the county's rate is significantly lower (-0.5 percentage point) with almost 500 fewer unemployed residents.

The estimated number of nonfarm jobs in the county totaled 55,700 in July representing a large, net monthly decrease of 1,200 jobs. This net loss was centered in a 1,000-job decline in manufacturing and a 400-job decline in government (schools) employment. Both of these declines could be characterized as seasonal for July. These dramatic job decreases were slightly offset by small employment gains in construction (+100 jobs) and leisure and hospitality (+200 jobs).

The county's annual jobs picture is unchanged compared to July 2004. A large decline of 700 jobs in manufacturing has been offset by smaller job gains in total trade; education and health services; and in professional and business services. Financial activities employment has also posted a gain of approximately 100 jobs compared to last July.

July's unemployment rate in **Walworth County** was 3.9 percent, down two-tenths of a percentage point from June. Annually, Walworth's unemployment rate is two-tenths of a percentage point lower than it was in July 2004.

Walworth's tally of nonfarm industry employment was 43,400 jobs in July. This total represented a net monthly decrease of 700 jobs. This net decrease was mainly a product of the 1,100-job loss in government employment (school districts and university employment taking a seasonal break) being offset by employment gains in manufacturing (+200 jobs) and leisure and hospitality (+400 jobs). The remaining industries showed little or no significant change from June to July.

Annually, Walworth's industry employ-

ment is lower than it was last July; down 400 jobs on a net basis. Overall, this is a net annual loss of government employment; leisure and hospitality employment; and construction employment balanced by small employment gains in manufacturing; education and health services; and total trade employment. Professional and business services employment gained 100 jobs over the year. In all likelihood, this growth is tied to an up tick in manufacturing production. Much of the employment in professional and business services is employment agency personnel; more specifically the majority are those who are assigned to work for contracted companies. A large number of these contracts are with manufacturing establishments.

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